

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 4 – HB 1280

March 25, 2014

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates a Tennessee Standards Commission (TSC) comprised of nine members. Three members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor, respectively. Sets forth who is eligible to serve on the TSC; the terms of initial and future TSC members; and how vacancies shall be filled.

The TSC shall recommend to the State Board of Education (SBE) all standards to be used in public schools. Prior to adoption of new standards by the SBE, the TSC proposed standards shall be made available for public review and comment on the SBE's website. Authorizes the SBE to return proposed standards to the TSC but not more than twice. Requires all curriculum standards to be reviewed and revised, as necessary, by the TSC at least once every six years.

Authorizes the TSC to consult with content experts or assemble committees of content experts to assist the TSC in developing and evaluating academic standards. Requires the TSC to have two regular meetings each academic year and authorizes the TSC to have special called meeting as necessary. Prohibits TSC members from receiving compensation for more than three special called meetings during any one academic year. TSC meetings shall be video-streamed on the internet. Requires the TSC to recommend to the SBE and the SBE to adopt new academic standards in the subjects of English language arts and mathematics by the beginning of the 2016-2017 academic year.

The TSC shall be attached to the SBE for administrative purposes. Requires the state to cancel any memorandum of understanding concerning the Common Core State Standards.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures –

Exceeds \$570,500/FY15-16

Exceeds \$1,116,700/FY16-17

Exceeds \$116,700/FY17-18 and Subsequent Fiscal Years

Assumptions:

- The SBE will require one additional staff member to help facilitate the review of English language arts and mathematics standards. Based on information from the SBE, the recurring increase in state expenditures for personnel, beginning in FY15-16 is estimated to be \$93,716 in salary and benefits.

- For the purpose of brevity, some calculations that are based on information from the Department of Education and the State Board of Education have not been explicitly provided in the assumptions to this fiscal note. However, this information is available upon request.
- The TSC will meet at least five times in FY15-16; an increase in state expenditures estimated to be \$26,700 with travel and lodging of \$13,200; meeting space and technology of \$10,000; and materials \$3,500.
- Based on information from the Department of Education, the SBE, and the costs associated with the Governor's review of academic standards, the development of new standards will require the help of teams of content experts.
- The increase in state expenditures in FY15-16 for stipends for content experts consultation in the subjects of English language arts and mathematics is estimated to be \$240,000; this includes stipends for six advisory team chairs of \$10,000 each, and stipends for 36 advisory team members at \$5,000 each.
- The increase in state expenditures in FY15-16 for content experts' travel, lodging, meeting space, and materials is estimated to be \$110,120; with travel for 42 individuals of \$37,600; lodging and meeting space of \$62,520; and materials of \$10,000.
- The increase in state expenditures in FY15-16 for the review of English language arts and mathematics is estimated to be \$470,536 (\$93,716 + \$26,700 + \$240,000 + \$110,120).
- The review of science standards will also take place in FY15-16. This increase is estimated to exceed \$100,000 based on the cost to review the standards in English language arts and mathematics.
- The total increase in state expenditures in FY15-16 is estimated to exceed \$570,536 (\$470,536 + \$100,000).
- Based on the professional development costs for other standards changes, the increase in state expenditures in FY16-17 is estimated to exceed \$1,000,000.
- The TSC is estimated to meet at least four times in FY16-17; an increase in state expenditures of \$22,960 [(\$28,700 / 5 meetings in FY15-16) x 4 meetings in FY16-17]
- The total increase in state expenditures in FY16-17 is estimated to exceed \$1,116,676 (\$93,716 + \$1,000,000 + \$22,960).
- The recurring increase in state expenditures beginning in FY17-18 is estimated to exceed \$116,676 (\$93,716 + \$22,960).

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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